

SENATE RESOLUTION 279

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to recognize W.D. Martin on the occasion of his retirement from AT&T.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, W.D. "Dale" Martin is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-six years as a valued employee of AT&T; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martin will be taking a much deserved retirement on June 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, born in Milan, Dale Martin graduated from Trezevant High School in 1970 as Salutatorian; a gifted athlete, he earned letters in baseball and basketball all four years; and

WHEREAS, following graduation, Mr. Martin, willing to sacrifice his personal safety and concerns to ensure the freedom of our great Nation, joined the Tennessee Army National Guard in 1971 and attained the rank of Sergeant before being honorably discharged in 1976; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, Dale Martin began his admirable tenure with SouthCentral Bell as a Service Technician; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his unparalleled expertise and the éclat with which he always performed his duties, Mr. Martin became a Supervisor at BellSouth in 1987; and

WHEREAS, an assiduous and reliable employee and a valuable member of his community, Dale Martin has distinguished himself in the midst of many devastating storms; in 1994 as the Digital Line Restoration Leader and again in 2003 as the Leader of Rapid Restoration Crews, he tirelessly led the efforts to return service to countless customers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Martin is an active and important part of his profession, as he retires as a lifetime member of the Telephone Pioneers of America; and

WHEREAS, Dale Martin exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Martin is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, the former Sherron Foust; his children, Kelley Elizabeth Martin and Brandy Elaine Martin; his sons-in-law, Scott Taylor and Michel Bivens; and his grandchildren, Andrew Martin Taylor, Abigail Martin Taylor, and John Dale Bivens; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dale Martin has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to W.D. "Dale" Martin our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement from AT&T and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.